

Washington, DC - Congressman Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) voted today to regulate formaldehyde levels in composite wood products, including FEMA Relief Trailers that were used following the Floods of 2008. The House Energy and Commerce Committee passed the *Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Woods Act* (H.R. 4805) by voice vote. The bill calls for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish national limits on formaldehyde emissions from most composite wood products.

“It is disturbing and unacceptable that hazardous formaldehyde emissions are not regulated by the government,” Braley said. “In my district alone, 20 FEMA issued trailers were reported to have unsafe levels of formaldehyde in the composite wood products. This bill is a good step in the right direction to lower the adverse effects of composite wood products on human health and Iowa families.”

The *Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Woods Act* requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue regulations, not later than January 1, 2012, similar to those developed by the State of California to hardwood plywood, medium-density fiberboard, and particleboard that is sold, supplied, offered for sale, or manufactured anywhere in the United States. EPA's regulations must ensure that compliance with the federal standards is equivalent to compliance with the California standards, and must include provisions relating to labeling, chain of custody requirements, laminated products, third-party testing and certification, and other matters of implementation.